



WHO
WE ARE

FUMC PORTSMOUTH A RECONCILING CONGREGATION

We, the congregation of the First United Methodist Church of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, are dedicated to worshipping, learning, and serving with all people as we embrace Jesus Christ's message of love and acceptance. As a United Methodist Church we stand fully behind the statement "Open Hearts, Open Minds, and Open Doors". We celebrate our diversity and invite all persons regardless of age, gender, racial or ethnic background, sexual orientation, marital or socioeconomic status, nationality, physical or mental ability into full membership and participation in the life of this community of faith.



**New England Annual Conference
Tri-State District**

The Rev. Sudarshana Devadhar, Bishop
The Rev. James McPhee, District Superintendent

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

129 Miller Avenue - Portsmouth, NH 03801

Office Phone 603-436-6038 office@fumcportsmouth.net

Pastor office hours - Tuesday and Thursday 9 am - 12 pm

[call to ensure availability]

Pastor - Rev. Dr. Debra J. Hanson

Check out our website at www.fumcportsmouth.com

Like and Follow Us On:   

Remember this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows **GENEROUSLY** will also reap **GENEROUSLY**.

Each of you should give what you have decided in your **HEART** to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion,

for God loves a cheerful giver

May 5, 2019
FUMC Portsmouth, NH

Prelude & Entrance of Christ's Light

Celebrations

***Call to Worship**

L: Delight! Children of God, delight!

P: We are delighted to be here together; to worship as a family and to be united in a common ministry.

L: We gather in worship to celebrate this community.

P: We celebrate the love that we have for one another, the support that we give to one another and the journey we are on to be united by God's grace.

L: We come together this day to delight in offering our gifts.

P: We delight in the gifts we are giving, the pledges we are making and the future we are creating.

L: We join our hearts and our spirits today and delight in giving.

P: We are here! We are delighted! We are united!

L: Let us worship the God who loves when we delight in giving.

P: Let us worship God!

***Hymn: "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" UMH #381**

A Time for the Child in all of Us

Prayer (unison)

God of amazing grace, you have asked us to give of ourselves, wholly and completely. We have heard your call and have responded with great affirmation and joy. Yet there are times when we fall short. Times when we forget. Times when we focus on the wrong things. Times when we put our money and our resources into our earthly possessions and not into a church that you have created and blessed. Help us to have faith, O God. Help us to give through that faith. Help us to be blessed by that faith.

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

L: Good friends: God is at work in us! God is alive in us!

God lives, and our sins are forgiven, through Christ, our Savior.

All: Alleluia! Amen.

Sung Response: Spirit of the Living God UMH #393

Ministry of Music

We Proclaim the Word

Reading the Word: 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

L: The Word of God for the People of God.

P: Thanks be to God.

Message: "Delight in Giving" Rev. D.S. Jim McPhee

Respond to God's Word

***Hymn: "Grace Alone" TFWS #2162**

Concerns and Joys

Silent Prayer and Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not in temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Gratitude Moment John VanReenen

Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

***Doxology: (Please join in singing the following:) UMH #94**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***Prayer of Dedication (unison)**

We give in grateful thanksgiving for all that God has given us. In the upside-down world of the gospel, we measure our wealth not by what we have, but what we can give away. Let us give away generously, in this offering, to bless your church, your people, your creation. Amen.

A Service of Holy Communion Insert

We Go Forth to Serve

***Hymn: "Lord Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing UMH #671**

***Choral Benediction (Congregation encircles the Sanctuary)**

May the Lord, gracious God bless and keep you forever. Grant your peace, perfect peace, courage in every endeavor. Lift up your eyes and seek His face, and His grace forever. May the Lord, mighty God bless and keep you forever.

***Pastor's Charge**

Postlude

**Please stand as you are comfortable*

*UMH = United Methodist Hymnal TFWS = The Faith We Sing
Large print bulletins are available from the greeters*

Welcome!

Whether you are joining us for worship for the first time or after many years of attending here at First UMC, we want you to know that you are welcome!

We are an inclusive community that invites everyone to be part of our church fellowship. Thank you for being here, and we hope that you have had a meaningful experience of worshiping our God so you leave this place feeling that you have been blessed to be a blessing. Please join us again!

Rev. Deb Hanson



Pastor - Rev. Dr. Debra J. Hanson
Pastor's Assistant - David Richards
Liturgist - Rev. Dr. Debra Hanson
Lay Leader - Susan Sarosiek
Director of Music - Bevan Bloemendaal
Acolyte - Sue Richards
Greeters - Dave & Sue Richards
Ushers - Al & Jan Cansdale, Ken & Jenya Westbrook
Sunday School - Aerial Silanpaa & Rosie Buswell
Sound Tech - Sue Sarosiek
Worship Service Tech - Steve Scott
Photographer - Dave Atkinson



PRAY TO ME
I WILL HEAR YOU

Jeremiah 29:12

WE LIFT UP IN PRAYER DEAR LORD...

Gayle Gardei	Roseanne	Barbara & Jim Slater
Marion Collishaw	Rev. David Kerr	Barbara Sylvester
Sue Goodhue	Jim New	Pauline Boynton
Hunter Pinkley	Kim Hishop	Barbara Millar
Sylvia Bartlett	Bobbie Noble	Irene Derosier
Brian Thompson	Art Munson	Barbara Clement
Malia Broe	Pastor Sue Ellery	Joette MacKenzie
Gil Stebbins	Judy Doyon	Vicky Fernandez
Rev. Bill Gardei	Charles Gilman	Alissa Fernandez
Woodie Lange	Our Church Family	Gabor [Brianna's father in-law]



Come join us for coffee hour after the church service in Sanborn Hall...we'd love to catch up with you and see how your week has gone.

Today's altar flowers are
In Loving Memory of
Fran & Walter Smith
by Art & Nancy



UPCOMING EVENTS

Gratitude Sunday

We welcome our District Superintendent Jim McPhee to our worship service. Jim will deliver the morning message, and we will celebrate communion together, as well as offer our financial pledges. Following the service, we have a luncheon provided by the Finance/Trustees, as well as a cake to celebrate Jim's retirement. Please plan to come. We hope to see you then.

Funeral Pre-Planning Workshop

On **Thursday, May 9 at 4:00 pm** in Sanborn Hall, we will host a workshop by J. Verne Wood Funeral Home on pre-planning funerals. This is sponsored by our church, and it is open to anyone who is interested. The workshop will be informational about how to pre-plan and what options people have in making their arrangements. Pre-planning is a gift we can give our families by taking some of the stress off their list of things they need to do.

We hope to see many of you there, and please feel free to bring a friend or some of your family members. If anyone has questions, please speak with Rev. Deb.

On **Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12**, we will remember mothers, not-yet-mothers, and those who have been mother figures in our lives. Everyone is welcome to bring in a picture of their mother or someone who has been like a mother to them, and we will have the pictures on display to see if people can match the picture with the child. Please put your name on the back of the picture so we can double check! Also, the picture may be of any stage in that person's life. (We will do the same on Father's Day!)

Lay Servant Ministry Class

May 11, 9-4 at FUMC. More information on the bulletin board or see David Richards.



We thank our District Superintendent, Rev. Jim McPhee for sharing the message this morning and co-officiating with our Communion service. Jim is retiring this year, and we are grateful for his leadership, insights, care and guidance over the six years he has served in this position. Please wish him well!

Thank You to Barbara Slater

As many of you know, Barbara Slater has given up being the chairperson of the Nurture Committee due to health reasons. We invite everyone to send Barbara a note of thanks - shower her with love and gratitude.

Thank you, Barbara, for your faithful leadership of our Nurture Committee for so many years. It is our turn to nurture you! You are such a blessing! Many blessings from your Church Family.



SPRING CLEAN UP - 24 PEOPLE, 3 HOURS, ENTIRE CHURCH DUSTED, FLOORS WASHED, CURTAINS FIXED, WINDOWS WASHED, 1 AWESOME DAY!!...THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CAME TO HELP!





DO THIS IN
REMEMBRANCE
OF ME.

**A Service of Holy Communion
for Eastertide**

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to our God.

P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: It is right and our deep joy to give you all our gratitude, O God, because in love and with a creativity we cannot imagine you made the universe, and the planets, and our earth and seas and sky. You created life, and us. And you gave us free will, trusting that we would make mistakes and learn, trusting that we would do amazing things for you and for each other.

And so with praise and gratitude in our hearts and on our lips, we join our voices in the song of the angels and saints, who forever sing to you, as we say these words:

**ALL: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

L: You are blessed, O God, and Jesus is blessed, and the Holy Spirit is blessed, too. We ask now that you send us your Spirit, that by your power, this ordinary table will become a sacred banquet, and this bread and cup will become holy things that we can share.

As we break bread together, as we drink from the same cup, unite us as people who are grateful for all we have and share in that abundance.
(written by Beth Merrill Neal)



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Words of Institution...

Our Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

L: Holy Spirit, come! Make all things new. Bless this bread, which you have given and human hands have made. Let it become for us the bread of life. Bless also this cup, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. Let it become for us the cup of salvation. Bless us also who eat and drink, that in this sharing we may know the living Christ who is with us now, and to the end of the age. Nourish us by these gifts to be willing servants of your world until your kingdom comes, and every creature beholds it.

Breaking Bread

L: The bread we break and the cup we now take are a sharing in the life of Christ. These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Sharing Bread and Cup...

L: Let us give thanks together!

Thank you, merciful God, for gladness in this bread and cup, for love that cannot die, for peace the world cannot give, for joy in the company of friends, for the splendors of creation, and for the mission of justice you have made our own. Give us the gifts of this Holy Communion — oneness of heart, love for neighbors, forgiveness of enemies, the will to serve you every day, and life that never ends.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

(written by Mary Luti)

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